"I needed your services more than ever and had no money. My daughter needed to be protected from her father’s drugs and alcohol problem. Thanks to you I got sole legal custody. Words can’t say how grateful I am. Thank you!!"

B.D.

"She was real and honest and fought hard for me over and over again. I felt important by the way she handled my case. You changed my life and gave me hope again."

S.C.

"I am so thankful for ILAS. When I couldn’t work any longer they were so thorough in promoting my interests and making it possible for me to pay my bills."

D.M.

"Without the help of the Family Justice Center and ILAS, I would [not] have been protected and my son would be taken out of state, away from me."

J.S.

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Dear Reader,

At Idaho Legal Aid, our mission is to provide equal access to justice through quality advocacy, education, and representation. What matters most to us is making sure our clients receive the legal help they need, when they need it.

2015 was a remarkable year for Idaho Legal Aid in so many ways. Some of the highlights include:

Providing 3,346 Idahoans with free legal assistance.

Increasing our ability to address systemic civil rights violations by hiring a second advocacy attorney, Jen Giuttari.

Securing funding to transform the way pro bono services are accessed in Idaho by helping the Idaho Volunteer Lawyers Program transition from a telephone to a web-based recruitment and referral system.

Twin Falls Managing Attorney Mike McCarthy’s years of hard work and dedication were recognized when he received the Idaho State Bar’s Professionalism Award.

Moving forward, we will continue to strive to be the best legal aid organization of our size in the nation.

Sincerely,

Jim Cook
Executive Director

"ILAS provides an invaluable service to the people needing it most."
Since 1968, Idaho Legal Aid Services, Inc. (ILAS) has helped vulnerable Idahoans who need civil legal aid but are unable to afford it.

Our staff and attorneys help clients escape violence, avoid homelessness, obtain financial stability, and gain access to health care and other benefits.

Our clients are seniors, children, survivors of violence and sexual assault, veterans, migrant farmworkers, and Native Americans. They are our neighbors, relatives, and friends.

**How We Help:**

- Provide direct representation from offices in Coeur d'Alene, Lewiston, Caldwell, Boise, Twin Falls, Pocatello, and Idaho Falls and at the Nampa Family Justice Center and FACES of Hope Victim Center in Boise.
- Offer immediate access to hundreds of online legal forms and educational resources.
- Give legal advice, referrals and other support through the Domestic Violence and Senior Legal Advice Lines
In 2015, ILAS staff and attorneys provided 3,346 Idahoans with critical legal services when their basic human needs were at stake.

### Housing
945 clients in cases such as wrongful evictions, foreclosures, public housing, and housing discrimination.

### Family
940 cases involving domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking.

### Health
345 cases involving health care including securing Medicaid coverage for seniors requiring long-term care.

### Consumer
320 cases including consumer rip-offs, scams, identity theft, predatory lending, public utilities, and illegal debt collection.

### Other
798 cases including guardianships for abused, neglected, and abandoned children; conservatorships; wills; wage claims; and assist with juvenile, employment, education, migrant farmworker, and Native American issues.
SERVICES, CONT.

- Helped 9,819 clients generate court documents using ILAS’s Online Interactive Interviews
- Represented 630 clients in court
- Served 1,600 clients through Domestic Violence, Senior, and Fair Housing Advice Lines
- Distributed 8,238 educational brochures
- Secured $3,562,368 in Social Security and $926,848 in Child Support/Medical/Daycare
- Provided 26,133 hours of free legal services and outreach in Idaho communities
STATEWIDE ADVOCACY

Protecting the civil rights of Idahoans is key to ILAS’s mission of providing equal access to justice for low-income people in our state. Our advocacy attorneys identify issues and develop strategies to address the systemic problems affecting Idaho’s most vulnerable residents. Howard Belodoff, ILAS’s Associate Director, leads the program’s advocacy litigation.

An example of this work is ILAS’s ongoing case of Bell v. City of Boise. The case concerns homeless people in Boise, a large percentage of which have chronic physical and mental disabilities. In Bell v. City of Boise ILAS challenged an ordinance that made it a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine and up to six months in jail, to sleep outside. Homeless people could be cited even when there were no shelter beds available or the person could not stay in a shelter due to a disability. This essentially criminalized sleeping, an activity as necessary to life as eating or breathing.

ILAS filed suit challenging the ordinance in 2009 with pro bono assistance from the Washington D.C. office of Latham Watkins LLP and the National Center for Homelessness and Poverty. Like many impact cases Bell v. City of Boise has moved slowly through the courts. The case is currently on appeal at the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

In August 2016, Bell v Boise caught national attention when the US Department of Justice (DOJ) filed a Statement of Interest, agreeing with ILAS’s position that the city may not punish a homeless person for conduct that is inextricably linked to their homeless status. The DOJ noted that the lack of available shelter space and housing alternatives make it “impossible for some homeless individuals to comply” with the camping ban, and stated “[i]f a person literally has nowhere else to go, then enforcement of the anti-camping ordinance against that person criminalizes her for being homeless” a clear violation of the Eighth Amendment’s protections against cruel and unusual punishment.

Though still ongoing, the Bell case has had a significant national impact beyond Idaho and the DOJ’s Statement has been used to convince cities across the country to reconsider and amend their camping ordinances to not criminalize sleeping or sitting when shelter beds are not available or for persons suffering from a disability that prevents a person from staying in a shelter.
Migrant farmworkers are vital to Idaho's agricultural economy. ILAS’s Migrant Farmworker Law Unit (MFLU) was created to make sure their rights are protected.

The MFLU conducts outreach to migrant farmworkers at farm labor camps and other places they live and frequent to educate them about their rights under state and federal laws designed to prevent their exploitation.

MFLU staff are based in offices in Idaho Falls, Twin Falls and Caldwell which lets them focus on reaching clients in largely agricultural areas. They work to ensure that farmworkers receive the pay and working conditions they are promised, that they are covered by worker’s compensation when they are injured, and that pesticide and other farmworker safety laws are enforced.

In 2015, ILAS’s Migrant Unit closed 102 cases benefiting 318 clients and their families in cases involving recovery of unpaid wages, violation of farmworker protection laws, denial of public benefits, housing evictions, and consumer issues.

"I appreciate all the help I received. I have a better life with my children because of them. They were so nice to me, they made me feel important. Took their time explaining things so I understood."

T.B.

ILAS's Indian Law Unit (ILU) provides legal aid to Native Americans on the Kootenai, Coeur d'Alene, Nez Perce, Duck Valley, and Fort Hall Reservations.

ILAS maintains strong relationships with Tribal governments, officials and members. Our attorneys understand and respect the significance that culture, tradition, and religion places in all aspects of tribal life, including law making.

Indian people and tribes have unique and specialized legal needs. In addition to tribal law, federal statutes affect virtually every aspect of Indian life, from health and education to law enforcement, taxation, real estate, and child custody. In many tribal communities, there are few private attorneys familiar with federal Indian or tribal law. Our attorneys represent tribal members in state and tribal courts in a wide range of civil cases including child protection, the Indian Child Welfare Act and at times provide public defender representation. We assist Indian landowners in estate planning and creating wills that comply with the American Indian Probate and Reform Act of 2004. We also provide support to tribes in drafting ordinances, codes, and rules of procedures for tribal courts involving juvenile justice and domestic violence. ILAS assists Tribal Judges’ efforts to improve the tribal court system by revising Tribal Codes, and acting as Guardian ad Litem for juveniles.
It was the end of January when residents in a mobile home park in a small eastern Idaho mountain town were given notice to vacate. The ground was covered in snow. They were given thirty days to search for new places to live; pack their couches, clothes, and Christmas lights; load everything into trucks; and move.

The tenants at the park had been experiencing issues since around 2008. The park owner had allowed more trailers than the park’s aging septic system could handle causing frequent sewage backups and water shutoffs. For nearly seven years, the park owner had promised residents that the system would be upgraded and even raised the rent multiple times saying the increase was to make repairs. The repairs never happened.

To prevent the system from failing completely, the landlord cut off water in the park, restricting access to water to only four hours per day. The residents were frustrated and scared. Moving in such a short amount of time in the winter was next to impossible.

Making matters worse, not all of the residents were being evicted. Only tenants that had stopped paying rent due to lack of water, or tenants that lived in trailers that were too old to move.

Desperate and fearing homelessness, several residents came to ILAS for help. Attorney Mike Hinman from the Idaho Falls Office reviewed their case and determined that the park owner had violated several laws including the Fair Housing Act. Mike informed the park owner that ILAS would sue if he didn’t rescind the notices to vacate and reinstate the residents’ water.

Working through the park owner’s attorney, Mike was able to quickly reach a settlement agreement. The owner agreed to turn the water back on and to give vacating residents ample time to move.

The residents who were renting their trailers were able to stay, rent free, until they could find new places to live and the tenants who owned their trailers were either able to remain at the park indefinitely or were given more time to move their trailers.

ILAS respects the safety and privacy of our clients. While the stories in this Community Impact Report are true, names, photos, and some details may have been changed to protect their anonymity. Thank you for understanding.
Shannon had been raising her granddaughter, Candice. When Candice was just 18 months old her father died unexpectedly. Candice’s mother, Stacey, was heartbroken. To cope, Stacey began using drugs and eventually disappeared, leaving Candice in Shannon’s care.

Shannon provided a wonderful and stable environment for Candice. However, without official guardianship, Shannon never had the authority to fully provide for and protect Candice. Not only was it impossible for Shannon to legally enroll Candice in after-school programs and drivers education, if Candice experienced a medical emergency Shannon wouldn’t be able to make key medical decisions about Candice’s care. They also both lived under the unspoken fear that Stacey could show up and try to take Candice away.

Overwhelmed by the idea of trying to take on petitioning for guardianship on her own and afraid of what would happen if she didn’t establish legal guardianship, Shannon came to ILAS for help. ILAS attorney, Matthew Simmons, took the case and filed a petition for guardianship which was awarded. Now Shannon has the legal authority to make sure Candice remains in a stable living environment with her grandmother, can have her medical needs met and is able to participate in the same activities as other children her age.

"My situation was very unique. I felt like I finally found an attorney that was able to understand my situation and take it seriously. Thank you...you have helped more than you know."

A.S
GRANTS: $2,733,318
DONATIONS: $143,856
ATTORNEY FEES: $60,308
## FINANCIAL STATEMENT

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASSETS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
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<td>Investments</td>
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<td>Cash held in trust, client deposits</td>
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<td>802</td>
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<td>Employee receivables</td>
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<td>Grant Receivables</td>
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<td>Prepaid expense</td>
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<tr>
<td>Property and equipment</td>
<td>594,635</td>
<td>680,234</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td>1,723,765</td>
<td>1,942,560</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

|                      |          |          |
| **LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS** |          |          |
| Current Liabilities   | 206,012  | 185,324  |
| Net Assets            | 1,517,753| 1,757,236|
| **Total Liabilities and Net Assets** | 1,732,765| 1,942,560|

"I am so thankful for ILAS. When I couldn't work any longer they were so thorough in promoting my interests and making it possible for me to pay my bills."

D.M.
Lora Breen, President, Idaho State Bar Association, Boise
Boyd Peterson, Vice President, Seventh District Bar Association, Firth
Cathy Beck, Secretary, YWCA-Lewiston/Clarkston, Lewiston
Louise Zimmerman, North Idaho Violence Prevention, Post Falls
Wayne Sweney, First District Bar Association, Coeur d'Alene
Pamela Massey, First District Bar Association, Coeur d'Alene
Sarah McDowell-Lamot, Second District Bar Association, Lewiston
Kim Brooks, Third District Bar Association, Nampa
Hazel Young, Western Idaho Community Action Program, Weiser
Ammon Hansen, Fourth District Bar Association, Boise
Paul McFarlane, Fourth District Bar Association, Boise
Mirium Mbotha, Women's and Children's Alliance, Boise
Seth Platts, Fifth District Bar Association, Twin Falls
Brooke Redmond, Fifth District Bar Association, Twin Falls
Mitza Salazar, Crisis Center of Magic Valley, Twin Falls
Mary Huneycutt, Sixth District Bar Association, Pocatello
Marie Pederson, Southeast Idaho Community Action Agency, Pocatello
Steve Brown, Seventh District Bar Association, Idaho Falls
Kourtney Crossley, Eastern Idaho Head Start, Idaho Falls

"...my case was an uphill battle without hope but because the attorney knew her stuff, was honest, utilized all facts of the case regarding abuses experienced, and truly cared about her job and clients, our family won!"

J.G.

"I had been dealing with SS for two years and even though I filled out all the necessary paperwork and documentation, I was denied. I was referred to ILAS and that was the best referral. I couldn’t have done it on my own. ILAS services allowed me to win my case. I can finally get the assistance I have needed for so long."

H.Z.

"No matter what, we were treated with dignity."

S.A.
STAFF

Boise
Sunrise Ayers - Managing Attorney
Lessie Brown - Attorney
Jennifer Giuttari - Statewide Advocacy Attorney
Linda Johnston - Office Manager
Jamie Pena - Secretary

Caldwell and Nampa Family Justice Center
Erik Johnson - Managing Attorney/Migrant Unit Director
Andy Thomas - Attorney
Kim Stretch - Attorney
Nancy Hurd - Attorney
Cory Christensen - Attorney
Delia Gonzalez-Munson - Outreach Worker
Rosa Manzo - Office Manager
Mary Faller - Secretary

Coeur d'Alene
Alan Wasserman - Managing Attorney
Carl Follevaag - Attorney
Matthew Simmons - Attorney
Erma Williams - Office Manager
Sherry Darnton - Secretary

Idaho Falls
Jake Workman - Managing Attorney
Joe Earnest - Attorney
Tracey Johnson - Office Manager
Amy Taylor - Secretary
Colleen Tabor - Secretary

Lewiston
Jamal Lyksett - Managing Attorney
Jacob Westerfield - Attorney
Lisa Tenny - Office Manager
Breanne Speas - Secretary

Pocatello
Fred Zundel - Managing Attorney
Brian Stephens - Attorney
Holly Arzola - Office Manager
Olivia Reynoso - Secretary

Twin Falls
Mike McCarthy - Managing Attorney
Karen McCarthy - Attorney
Adriana Saldana - Outreach Worker
Tina Young - Office Manager
Monica Reyes - Secretary

Administration
Jim Cook - Executive Director
Howard Belodoff - Associate Director/Indian Unit Director
Bev Allen - Executive Assistant
Mary Zimmerman - Director of Finance and Administration
Louise Faul - Accounting Assistant
Steven Rapp - Technology Project Developer
Gina Whitney - Development Director

ILAS Statewide Meeting, Camp Ida-Haven, McCall, September 2015
WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THE INDIVIDUALS AND BUSINESSES WHOSE GENEROSITY MAKE ACCESS TO LEGAL AID POSSIBLE.

$2,500 and Above
Idaho Justice Center/Chip Cole
Thomas Smith

$1,000 to $1,499
Battelle Energy Alliance
Jeanne McPherson
Kathryn Shelton
Senior Edge Legal
Wayne & Fay Sweney

$500 to $999
Laura Carter
Microsoft Matching Gift Program
Susan Davies

$250 to $499
Anonymous
Holly Arzola
Idaho Association of Defense Counsel
Ryta Ofanoff

$100 to $249
Angela Jensen Marshall
Care Net
Cottie Hood
Idaho State Bar/Appellate Law Section

John & Nancy Hurley
Kapka Smith
Lisa Hofmann Pachie (for Emily Hofmann)
Robert Magette

Volunteers
Aaron Jenkins
Amanda Findlay
Anne Magnelli
Ashley Francois
Brett Harris
Cassandra Cooper
Charles Sheroke
Cottie Hood
David Commisa
Emily Joyce
Emily Burns
Erin Wood
Hans Geary
Jake Peterson
Jeffery Ball
Jeff Howe
Jillian Roderick
Jordan Smith
Justine Groome
Linda Wells
Mark Ellison
Matt Shriver
Matthew Frost
Max Corely
Monica Fabbri
Nancy Hurd
Rachel Ramey
Rebecca Kulaga
Robin Croteau
Sam Vanderwall
Scott Bauer
Stephanie Quick
Stephen Bywater
Wayne Fuller

Grantors
Ada County/Grants to Encourage Arrests
Ada County/Court Improvement Grant
Area Agency on Aging of North Idaho
Casey Family Foundation
City of Idaho Falls
City of
Nampa/Grants to Encourage Arrest
Coeur d'Alene Tribe

College of Southern Idaho Office on Aging
Community Action Partnership
Concordia University
Eastern Idaho Community Action Partnership
Idaho Commission on Aging
Idaho Community Foundation
Idaho Council on Domestic Violence & Victim Assistance
Idaho Concil of Governments
Idaho Law Foundation/IOLTA Program
Idaho State Police
Idaho Supreme Court Legal Services Corporation
Native American Rights Fund
Nez Perce Tribe
Parents Reaching out to Parents
Seagraves Foundation
Seattle University
Southeast Idaho Council of Governments
Twin County United Way
United Way of Idaho Falls and Bonneville County
United Way of Kootenai County
United Way of Magic Valley
United Way of Southeast Idaho
United Way of Treasure Valley
US District Court/Community Education Grant

"Thank you for giving me a priceless gift in 2015 - my safety and freedom."

K.N.